

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (new): A system wherein a requester places an order for at least one provider and a degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed, the system comprising:

a data storage device to receive and store user information from at least one user, the user information including requester information that specifies requester criteria, provider information that specifies provider criteria, and order information that specifies order criteria provided by the requester for that particular order;

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a virtual provider that is created by pairing provider information of a particular provider with order information of a particular order to create an informational pair; and

an iterative scoring system that compares the provider information of a particular provider and the order information of a particular order within each respective informational pair, that determines a score reflecting degree of matching for each respective informational pair, and that receives additional information for iterative rescoreing with or without requesting said additional information.

Claim 30 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the score is computed from a predetermined formula which includes at least one of user-specified criteria, user-specified weighting factors, and user-specified relative importance of respective criteria.

Claim 31 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the iterative scoring system determines scores based in part on degree of clustering of keywords in information provided.

Claim 32 (new): The system of claim 31, wherein the degree of clustering of keywords in information provided is at least one of (a) information provided by at least one of the requester,

the at least one provider, and a third party and (b) information contained in at least one of an application, a biography, and a resume submitted by the at least one provider.

Claim 33 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the iterative scoring system considers the degree of matching through multiple steps including receiving and inputting user information and optionally requesting the user information.

Claim 34 (new): The system of claim 33, wherein the system further comprises (a) a management system that tracks each virtual provider through the multiple steps and (b) a sequencing system that specifies contents of each step of the multiple steps.

Claim 35 (new): The system of claim 33, further comprising a timer that allocates a pre-determined time to complete at least one of the multiple steps.

Claim 36 (new): The system of claim 35, wherein the system sends an alarm indicating that a predetermined time period has lapsed without requisite action.

Claim 37 (new): The system of claim 36, wherein the alarm is sent to at least one individual recipient selected from the group consisting of the requester, the provider, a third party, and an operator of the system, the alarm is classified as either a warning alarm or an urgent alarm, and the alarm is sent to the at least one individual recipient based on whether the respective at least one individual recipient has access to warning alarms or to urgent alarms.

Claim 38 (new): The system of claim 33, wherein the contents of each step of the multiple steps at least includes instructions to at least one of (a) the requester regarding the input of additional requester information and (b) the provider regarding the input of additional provider information, and wherein the sequencing system provides default content of a step.

Claim 39 (new): The system of claim 38, wherein the default content is modified by the requester.

Claim 40 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a rescoring system that automatically corrects the scores based on correction factors.

Claim 41 (new): The system of claim 40, wherein the correction factors are derived from at least one of interviewing the provider, objective testing of the provider, and reference checking of the provider's information.

Claim 42 (new): The system of claim 40, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 43 (new): The system of claim 42, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 44 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 45 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 46 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system.

Claim 47 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a billing system that bills the requester based on at least one of (a) number of providers that have been matched with said

requester, (b) number of orders during a period of time from said requester, and (c) the number of iterations.

Claim 48 (new): The system of claim 29, further comprising a knowledge base containing information on which to base requests for information which are generated by the system.

Claim 49 (new): The system of claim 48, wherein the requests for information result in the system obtaining at least one of the purchaser information, the provider information, the order information, and refinements of the foregoing.

Claim 50 (new): The system of claim 48, wherein the knowledgebase contains at least two different categories of information including (a) basic information used by the system to construct initial questionnaires used to obtain input of initial requester, order, and provider information; and (b) correction information used by the system to construct verification materials used for corrections when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 51 (new): The system of claim 50, wherein the correction information includes rules by which verification materials including at least questions are selected for verification and correction of previously entered provider, order, and requester information.

Claim 52 (new): The system of claim 51, wherein the verification materials are constructed in a real time manner by the system question by question when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 53 (new): The system of claim 52, wherein the verification materials include multiple-choice questions and a plurality of answers to each respective question.

Claim 54 (new): The system of claim 48, wherein the requests for information comprise at least one of questionnaires, application forms, tests, interview scripts and other verification requests.

Claim 55 (new): The system of claim 48, wherein the requests for information are organized in a plurality of levels so that the response to one or more requests for information in one level generates one or more requests for information in another level.

Claim 56 (new): The system of claim 55, wherein the requests for information are organized into at least three levels.

Claim 57 (new): The system of claim 48, wherein the system makes at least one request for information from at least one responder, receives at least one response from respective responders, and determines which particular request for information was satisfied without the respective responders identifying themselves.

Claim 58 (new): The system of claim 57, wherein the system includes a plurality of hidden codes to identify respective responders.

Claim 59 (new): The system of claim 48, further comprising a knowledge base system that updates the information contained in the knowledge base automatically so that the knowledge base is an adaptive knowledge base.

Claim 60 (new): The system of claim 59, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system, wherein the reporting system advises at least one of requesters and providers when the knowledge base is automatically updated, and wherein at least one of requesters and providers input additional information into the system in response to the advisories.

Claim 61 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the requester is a prospective employer and the provider is one of a prospective employee or independent contractor.

Claim 62 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the requester is a prospective patient and the provider is one of a prospective doctor or dentist.

Claim 63 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the requester is a human shopper and the provider is a supplier of one of companionship, goods, or services.

Claim 64 (new): The system of claim 29, wherein the degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed without elimination of any providers to obtain a best fit.

Claim 65 (new): A system wherein a requester places an order for at least one provider, and a degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed, the system comprising:

a data storage device to receive and store user information from at least one user, the user information including requester information that specifies requester criteria, provider information that specifies provider criteria, and order information that specifies order criteria provided by the requester for that particular order from at least one user;

at least one virtual provider that is created by pairing provider information of a particular provider with order information of a particular order to create an informational pair;

a scoring system that compares the provider information of a particular provider and the order information of a particular order within each respective informational pair, and that determines a score reflecting a degree of matching for each respective informational pair;

a management system that tracks each virtual provider of the at least one virtual provider through a plurality of information gathering steps; and

a sequencing system that specifies contents of each step of the plurality of information gathering steps, the contents at least including instructions to at least one of (a) the requester regarding the input of requester information and (b) the provider regarding the input of provider information.

Claim 66 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the sequencing system provides default content of an information gathering step.

Claim 67 (new): The system of claim 66, wherein the default content is modified by the requester.

Claim 68 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the score is computed from a predetermined formula which includes at least one of user-specified criteria, user-specified weighting factors, and user-specified relative importance of respective criteria.

Claim 69 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the scoring system determines scores based in part on degree of clustering of keywords in information provided.

Claim 70 (new): The system of claim 69, wherein the degree of clustering of keywords in information provided is at least one of (a) information provided by at least one of the requester, the at least one provider, and a third party and (b) information contained in at least one of an application, a biography, and a resume submitted by the at least one provider.

Claim 71 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the scoring system considers the degree of matching through the plurality of information gathering steps including receiving and inputting user information and optionally requesting the user information.

Claim 72 (new): The system of claim 71, further comprising a timer that allocates a predetermined time to complete at least one of the information gathering steps.

Claim 73 (new): The system of claim 72, wherein the system sends an alarm indicating that a predetermined time period has lapsed without requisite action.

Claim 74 (new): The system of claim 73, wherein the alarm is sent to at least one individual recipient selected from the group consisting of the requester, the provider, a third party, and an operator of the system, the alarm is classified as either a warning alarm or an urgent alarm, and the alarm is sent to the at least one individual recipient based on whether the respective at least one individual recipient has access to warning alarms or to urgent alarms.

Claim 75 (new): The system of claim 65, further comprising a rescore system that automatically corrects the scores based on correction factors.

Claim 76 (new): The system of claim 75, wherein the correction factors are derived from at least one of interviewing the provider, objective testing of the provider, and reference checking of the provider's information.

Claim 77 (new): The system of claim 75, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 78 (new): The system of claim 77, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 79 (new): The system of claim 65, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 80 (new): The system of claim 79, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 81 (new): The system of claim 65, further comprising a reporting system that at least (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, or (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system.

Claim 82 (new): The system of claim 65, further comprising a billing system that bills the requester based on at least one of (a) number of providers that have been matched with said

requester, (b) number of orders during a period of time from said requester, and (c) number of iterations.

Claim 83 (new): The system of claim 65, further comprising a knowledge base containing information on which to base requests for information which are generated by the system.

Claim 84 (new): The system of claim 83, wherein the requests for information result in the system obtaining at least one of the purchaser information, the provider information, the order information, and refinements of the foregoing.

Claim 85 (new): The system of claim 83, wherein the knowledge base contains at least two different categories of information including (a) basic information used by the system to construct initial questionnaires used to obtain input of initial requester, order, and provider information; and (b) correction information used by the system to construct verification materials used for corrections when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 86 (new): The system of claim 85, wherein the correction information includes rules by which verification materials including at least questions are selected for verification and correction of previously entered provider, order, and requester information.

Claim 87 (new): The system of claim 86, wherein the verification materials are constructed in a real time manner by the system question by question when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 88 (new): The system of claim 87, wherein the verification materials include multiple-choice questions and a plurality of answers to each respective question.

Claim 89 (new): The system of claim 83, wherein the requests for information comprise at least one of questionnaires, application forms, interview scripts and other verification request.

Claim 90 (new): The system of claim 83, wherein the requests for information are organized in a plurality of levels so that the response to one or more requests for information in one level generates one or more requests for information in another level.

Claim 91 (new): The system of claim 90, wherein the requests for information are organized into at least three levels.

Claim 92 (new): The system of claim 83, wherein the system makes at least one request for information from at least one responder, receives at least one response from the respective responder, and determines which particular request for information was satisfied without the respective responder identifying themselves.

Claim 93 (new): The system of claim 92, wherein the system includes a plurality of hidden codes to identify the respective responder.

Claim 94 (new): The system of claim 83, further comprising a knowledge base system that updates the information contained in the knowledge base automatically so that the knowledge base is an adaptive knowledge base.

Claim 95 (new): The system of claim 94, further comprising a reporting system that at least (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, or (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system, wherein the reporting system advises at least one of the requesters or providers when the knowledge base is automatically updated, and wherein at least one of the requesters or providers input additional information into the system in response to the advisories.

Claim 96 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the requester is a prospective employer and the provider is one of a prospective employee or independent contractor.

Claim 97 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the requester is a prospective patient and the provider is one of a prospective doctor or dentist.

Claim 98 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the requester is a human shopper and the provider is a supplier of one of companionship, goods, or services.

Claim 99 (new): The system of claim 65, wherein the degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed without elimination of any providers to obtain a best fit.

Claim 100 (new): A system wherein a requester places an order for at least one provider and a degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed using program code, the system comprising:

a data storage device to receive and store user information including requester information that specifies requester criteria, provider information that specifies provider criteria, and order information that specifies the requester's criteria for that particular order;

at least one virtual provider that is created by matching provider information of a particular provider with order information of a particular order; and

a knowledge base which is stored in a data storage device, which is separate from the user information and separate from the program code, and which contains information on which to base requests for information by the system to obtain the user information.

Claim 101 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the data storage device for the knowledge base is separate from the data storage device which receives and stores user information.

Claim 102 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requests for information result in the system obtaining at least one of the purchaser information, the provider information, the order information, and refinements of the foregoing.

Claim 103 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the knowledgebase contains at least two different categories of information including (a) basic information used by the system to construct initial questionnaires used to obtain input of initial requester, order, and provider

information; and (b) correction information used by the system to construct verification materials used for corrections when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 104 (new): The system of claim 103, wherein the correction information includes rules by which verification materials including at least questions are selected for verification and correction of previously entered provider, order, and requester information.

Claim 105 (new): The system of claim 104, wherein the verification materials are constructed in a real time manner by the system question by question when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 106 (new): The system of claim 105, wherein the verification materials include multiple-choice questions and a plurality of answers to each respective question.

Claim 107 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requests for information comprise at least one of questionnaires, application forms, interview scripts and other verification request.

Claim 108 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requests for information are organized in a plurality of levels so that the response to one or more requests for information in one level generates one or more requests for information in another level.

Claim 109 (new): The system of claim 108, wherein the requests for information are organized into at least three levels.

Claim 110 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the system makes at least one request for information from at least one responder, receives at least one response from respective responder, and determines which particular request for information was satisfied without the respective responder identifying themselves.

Claim 111 (new): The system of claim 110, wherein the system includes a plurality of hidden codes to identify respective responder.

Claim 112 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a knowledge base system that updates the information contained in the knowledge base automatically so that the knowledge base is an adaptive knowledge base.

Claim 113 (new): The system of claim 112, wherein the knowledge base is automatically updated to provide updates with or without an acceptance decision by a human monitor, and wherein the updates may be used as a basis for obtaining additional user information.

Claim 114 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system, wherein the reporting system advises at least one of requesters and providers when the knowledge base is automatically updated, and wherein at least one of requesters and providers input additional information into the system in response to the advisories.

Claim 115 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a scoring system for each of the at least one virtual provider that compares the provider information of a particular provider and the order information of a particular order, and that determines a score for each respective informational pair for each said at least one virtual provider reflecting the degree of matching between the criteria of the provider information of a particular provider and the order information of a particular order.

Claim 116 (new): The system of claim 115, wherein the score is computed from a predetermined formula which includes at least one of user-specified criteria, user-specified weighting factors, and user-specified relative importance of respective criteria.

Claim 117 (new): The system of claim 115, wherein the scoring system determines scores based in part on degree of clustering of keywords in information provided.

Claim 118 (new): The system of claim 117, wherein the degree of clustering of keywords in information provided is at least one of (a) information provided by at least one of the requester, the at least one provider, and a third party and (b) information contained in at least one of an application, a biography, and a resume submitted by the at least one provider.

Claim 119 (new): The system of claim 115, wherein the scoring system considers the degree of matching through multiple steps including receiving and inputting user information and optionally requesting the user information.

Claim 120 (new): The system of claim 115, further comprising a rescoring system that automatically corrects the scores based on correction factors.

Claim 121 (new): The system of claim 120, wherein the correction factors are derived from at least one of interviewing the provider, objective testing of the provider, and reference checking of the provider's information.

Claim 122 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the system further comprises (a) a management system that tracks each virtual provider through the multiple steps and (b) a sequencing system that specifies contents of each step of the multiple steps.

Claim 123 (new): The system of claim 122, further comprising a timer that allocates a pre-determined time to complete at least one of the multiple steps.

Claim 124 (new): The system of claim 123, wherein the system sends an alarm indicating that a predetermined time period has lapsed without requisite action.

Claim 125 (new): The system of claim 124, wherein the alarm is sent to at least one individual recipient selected from the group consisting of the requester, the provider, a third party, and an

operator of the system, the alarm is classified as either a warning alarm or an urgent alarm, and the alarm is sent to the at least one individual recipient based on whether the respective at least one individual recipient has access to warning alarms or to urgent alarms.

Claim 126 (new): The system of claim 122, wherein the contents of each step of the multiple steps at least includes instructions to at least one of (a) the requester regarding the input of additional requester information and (b) the provider regarding the input of additional provider information, and wherein the sequencing system provides default content of a step.

Claim 127 (new): The system of claim 126, wherein the default content is modified by the requester.

Claim 128 (new): The system of claim 122, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 129 (new): The system of claim 122, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 130 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 131 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 132 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the

system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system.

Claim 133 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a billing system that bills the requester based on at least one of (a) number of providers that have been matched with said requester, (b) number of orders during a period of time from said requester, and (c) the number of iterations.

Claim 134 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requester is a prospective employer and the provider is one of a prospective employee or independent contractor.

Claim 135 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requester is a prospective patient and the provider is one of a prospective doctor or dentist.

Claim 136 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the requester is a human shopper and the provider is a supplier of one of companionship, goods, or services.

Claim 137 (new): The system of claim 100, wherein the degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed without elimination of any providers to obtain a best fit.

Claim 138 (new): The system of claim 100, further comprising a correction system that automatically corrects the scores provided by the scoring system based on correction factors.

Claim 139 (new): The system of claim 138, wherein the correction factors are derived from at least one of interviewing the provider, objective testing of the provider, and reference checking regarding the provider's information.

Claim 140 (new): A system wherein a requester places an order for at least one provider and a degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed, the system comprising:

a data storage device to receive and store user information including requester information that specifies requester criteria, provider information that specifies provider criteria, and order information which specifies the requester's criteria for that particular order;

at least one virtual provider that is created by matching provider information of a particular provider with order information of a particular order to create an informational pair;

a scoring system for each said at least one virtual provider that compares the provider information of a particular provider and the order information of a particular order within each respective informational pair, and that determines a score reflecting degree of matching for each respective informational pair; and

a correction system that automatically corrects the scores provided by the scoring system based on correction factors and additional information.

Claim 141 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the correction factors are derived from at least one of interviewing the provider, objective testing of the provider, and reference checking of the provider's information.

Claim 142 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the score is computed from a predetermined formula which includes at least one of user-specified criteria, user-specified weighting factors, and user-specified relative importance of respective criteria.

Claim 143 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the scoring system determines scores based in part on degree of clustering of keywords in information provided.

Claim 144 (new): The system of claim 143, wherein the degree of clustering of keywords in information provided is at least one of (a) information provided by at least one of the requester, the at least one provider, and a third party and (b) information contained in at least one of an application, a biography, and a resume submitted by the at least one provider.

Claim 145 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the scoring system considers the degree of matching through multiple steps including receiving and inputting user information and optionally requesting the user information.

Claim 146 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a rescoring system that automatically corrects the scores based on correction factors.

Claim 147 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a management system that tracks the at least one virtual provider through the multiple steps; and a sequencing system that specifies contents of each step, the contents at least including automatically-generated requests which are delivered to at least one of the requester regarding the input of additional requester information and to the provider regarding the input of additional provider information.

Claim 148 (new): The system of claim 147, further comprising a timer that allocates a pre-determined time to complete at least one of the multiple steps.

Claim 149 (new): The system of claim 147, wherein the system sends an alarm indicating that a predetermined time period has lapsed without requisite action.

Claim 150 (new): The system of claim 149, wherein the alarm is sent to at least one individual recipient selected from the group consisting of the requester, the provider, a third party, and an operator of the system, the alarm is classified as either a warning alarm or an urgent alarm, and the alarm is sent to the at least one individual recipient based on whether the respective at least one individual recipient has access to warning alarms or to urgent alarms.

Claim 151 (new): The system of claim 147, wherein the contents of each step of the multiple steps at least includes instructions to at least one of (a) the requester regarding the input of additional requester information and (b) the provider regarding the input of additional provider information, and wherein the sequencing system provides default content of a step.

Claim 152 (new): The system of claim 151, wherein the default content is modified by the requester.

Claim 153 (new): The system of claim 151, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 154 (new): The system of claim 153, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 155 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a device to request information which is one of (a) an avatar which is an animated image generated automatically by the system or (b) a simulated interviewer.

Claim 156 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a device to accept verbal input, and wherein information is provided as verbal input and the system converts the verbal input to digital form.

Claim 157 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system.

Claim 158 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a billing system that bills the requester based on at least one of (a) number of providers that have been matched with said requester, (b) number of orders during a period of time from said requester, and (c) the number of iterations.

Claim 159 (new): The system of claim 140, further comprising a knowledge base containing information on which to base requests for information which are generated by the system.

Claim 160 (new): The system of claim 159, wherein the requests for information result in the system obtaining at least one of the purchaser information, the provider information, the order information, and refinements of the foregoing.

Claim 161 (new): The system of claim 159, wherein the knowledgebase contains at least two different categories of information including (a) basic information used by the system to construct initial questionnaires used to obtain input of initial requester, order, and provider information; and (b) correction information used by the system to construct verification materials used for corrections when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 162 (new): The system of claim 161, wherein the correction information includes rules by which verification materials including at least questions are selected for verification and correction of previously entered provider, order, and requester information.

Claim 163 (new): The system of claim 162, wherein the verification materials are constructed in a real time manner by the system question by question when the system determines that verification of user-provided information is appropriate.

Claim 164 (new): The system of claim 163, wherein the verification materials include multiple-choice questions and a plurality of answers to each respective question.

Claim 165 (new): The system of claim 159, wherein the requests for information comprise at least one of questionnaires, application forms, interview scripts and other verification request.

Claim 166 (new): The system of claim 159, wherein the requests for information are organized in a plurality of levels so that the response to one or more requests for information in one level generates one or more requests for information in another level.

Claim 167 (new): The system of claim 166, wherein the requests for information are organized into at least three levels.

Claim 168 (new): The system of claim 159, wherein the system makes at least one request for information from at least one responder, receives at least one response from respective responder, and determines which particular request for information was satisfied without the respective responder identifying themselves.

Claim 169 (new): The system of claim 168, wherein the system includes a plurality of hidden codes to identify respective responder.

Claim 170 (new): The system of claim 159, further comprising a knowledge base system that updates the information contained in the knowledge base automatically so that the knowledge base is an adaptive knowledge base.

Claim 171 (new): The system of claim 170, further comprising a reporting system that at least one of (a) sends status messages to the requester regarding the status of a particular order in the system, and (b) sends status messages to providers regarding the status of the virtual providers relating to respective providers in the system, wherein the reporting system advises at least one of requesters and providers when the knowledge base is automatically updated, and wherein at least one of requesters and providers input additional information into the system in response to the advisories.

Claim 172 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the requester is a prospective employer and the provider is one of a prospective employee or independent contractor.

Claim 173 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the requester is a prospective patient and the provider is one of a prospective doctor or dentist.

Claim 174 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the requester is a human shopper and the provider is a supplier of one of companionship, goods, or services.

*AGC* Claim 175 (new): The system of claim 140, wherein the degree of matching between each order-provider pairing is computed without elimination of any providers to obtain a best fit.